COMMANDER NEAT

"Goodbye, Earth"

written by Steve Sutton

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CAST

<u></u>
BILLYSTEVE SUTTON
LARSSTEVE SUTTON
<u>GUEST CAST</u>
PASSER-BYSTEVE SUTTON
MARTHAJUSTIN MCELROY
GEORGEJOSHUA MONTANO
MARKSTEVE SUTTON
SAM

FADE IN:

EXT. BILLY'S BACKYARD - AFTERNOON (BILLY, PASSER-BY)

NINE-YEAR-OLD BILLY BLAST is looking into the camera, wearing a purple football helmet. Behind him we see a partly cloudy sky and a rickety spaceship on the ground near a ramp leading down a steep downward slope at the edge of his property.

BILLY

(Waving at the camera)
Greetings fellow humans! I am Billy
Blast, better known to the Galactic
Federation as Commander Neat! And I am
about to embark on an historic journey!
Soon I will leave this world behind and
fly my trusty Chicken Noodle SuperRocket
into deep space, because aliens ate my
baby sister and I am going to get her
back!

Dramatic stings are heard. Birds are then heard chirping in the distance for a few seconds, then a PASSER-BY is seen walking along the adjoining street, motionless, staring at him.

PASSER-BY Kid, are you talking to me?

A car drives along the street behind him.

BTTTY

(Close-up)

Yes I am.

PASSER-BY

Okay, well, good luck with that.

The passer-by resumes walking. Billy nods to him confidently, then looks at the sky. Another dramatic sting is heard.

ACT I FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

EXT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DAY (MARTHA, BILLY, GEORGE, LARS)

The camera pans down to reveal the front of Billy's house.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

MARTHA is seen chopping carrots for supper. Billy enters view and looks in from the hallway.

BILLY

Mom? I'm going into space now. I just wanted to say goodbye.

MARTHA

Okay dear. Did you finish your homework?

BILLY

Yes, I finished it.

MARTHA

Alright, have fun.

Billy nods to her, then continues into the living room where GEORGE is relaxing on the sofa, watching television.

BILLY

Hey Dad? I'm going into space now. I don't know how long I'll be gone.

GEORGE

Oh. Okay, just be back before it gets dark son.

BILLY

I'll try. No promises. Farewell.

Billy salutes him and continues towards the back door.

GEORGE

(Turning back to the TV)

Kids.

EXT. BILLY'S BACKYARD - DAY

Billy exits the back door, looks down at the ground, then looks back up, very determined.

BILLY

Let's rock.

Billy runs towards the SuperRocket, hops up on a wing and enters the cockpit.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Lars, initiate pre-flight systems check!

LARS

Initiating.

BILLY

Verify field core, stable.

LARS

Verified.

BILLY

(Operating controls)
Okay. Life support, check. Guidance system, check. Lars computer, check!

MARTHA (V.O.)

Billy, did you take out the trash?

BILLY

Uh, not yet Mom.

MARTHA (V.O.)

Well, hop to it mister.

BILLY

(Becoming annoyed) Goddammit.

ACT III

EXT. HOUSE - DAY (BILLY, MARK, SAM)

Billy is seen pushing a bag of heavy trash over the rim of large outdoor garbage can, which is too tall for him to reach otherwise. The trash falls into it and lands with a thump. He turns away from the can and begins to return to the SuperRocket. MARK steps into view behind him and stops him.

MARK

Hey, dorkface! How much money you got?

BILLY

(To himself, annoyed)

Great.

Billy turns to face the bully.

BILLY (CONT'D)

(Speaking flatly)

I don't have any more money. You took it all yesterday, remember?

MARK

(Holding out his hand)

Oh, I remember. I remember you're rich. Now fork it over.

BILLY

I said I don't have any.

SAM, another bully, is now seen standing beside Mark.

MARK

Well, you better go get some if you don't want your ass pounded into the ground! You hear what I'm saying?

BILLY

(Continuing to speak flatly)
Yes, I hear what you're saying. You want
to pound my ass.

MARK

(Pausing, not amused)
Oh, fun-ny. Now I know you didn't just say that. I guess I'm gonna have to teach you a lesson.

He taps Sam on his chest.

MARK (CONT'D)

Let's get him.

SAM

Yeah!

Mark and Sam begin to approach Billy. Billy raises his laser gun and points it at them.

BTT_tY

Stand back gentlemen or I'll have to zap you!

MARK

(Stopping)

Heh! Where'd you get that? Toys Are Us?

BILLY

Actually I constructed it using discarded military components I found on eBay.

MARK

Shut up and hand it over. I'm giving it to my brother for his birthday.

SAM

Yeah. And I want the helmet.

BILLY

I don't think so.

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MARK

Alright, how about this? We'll just take it from you.

Mark and Sam begin to approach him again. Billy backs up a little.

BILLY

Hey, what part of stand back didn't you buttholes understand?

SAM

Let's pound him 'til his eyes bleed.

BILLY

(Aiming his laser gun) Okay, you asked for it.

Billy shoots, but nothing happens. Only a weak beep and the sound of the trigger clicking are heard. He holds up the gun and looks at it.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Oh, yeah. I forgot to recharge it.

He looks at Mark and Sam and lowers the gun. Letting out a nervous chuckle, he retreats in the opposite direction.

MARK

(Turning to Sam)

Get after him! Go around to the other side and cut him off!

Sam heads off to intercept Billy.

MARK (CONT'D)

Ho, this is gonna be fun.

He follows Billy.

EXT. BILLY'S BACKYARD - DAY

Billy rounds a corner and leans up against the back of the house, glancing up in desperation. Mark enters view behind him.

MARK

Ollie, Ollie, oxen free. You can't get away from me.

Billy moves off towards the SuperRocket in the distance. Looking back, he doesn't see Sam step in front of him.

SAM

Hey!

Billy is stopped in his tracks as he bumps into Sam. Looking around, he sees no way of escape. Sam grabs him under his arm and around his neck, letting out a taunting moan. Billy looks up at Mark as he enters view, scared.

MARK

Now, that was a dumb thing to do. You didn't really think you could get away, did you?

Sam is now seen holding Billy under both arms and around his chest.

BILLY

Look, I'm sorry, okay?

MARK

Oh, it's way too late for that.

Sam picks Billy up a little to make the pain hurt more as Mark draws back his fist and punches him hard in the stomach.

MARK (CONT'D)

Things ain't so funny now, are they?! What'cha gonna say to me now, you little fuck?!

BILLY

Just two words, asshole!

He pulls his wrist communicator towards his head, as Sam lifts him up again.

BILLY (CONT'D)

Lars. Teleport!

Mark looks at him, a bit confused, as he draws back his fist again for another punch. As he swings, Billy turns into transparent blue energy. Mark's fist passes through him and hits Sam, who lets out a grunt and grabs his stomach in pain.

MARK

Ah, shit, man! Why'd you let him go?!

Billy moves away as the unstable teleportation process continues, eventually transporting him to the wing of the SuperRocket.

MARK (CONT'D)

Did you see where he went?

Fully materialized on the wing, Billy approaches the cockpit of the ship. Having lost interest, Mark and Sam are now seen leaving, seemingly oblivious to the teleportation.

EXT. STREET SIDE - DAY

MARK

Heh, you okay, man? He probably went home, crying to his momma. We'll get him later.

A loud roar from behind them causes them to stop as the SuperRocket's engine ignites. They slowly turn their heads and look back.

EXT. BILLY'S BACKYARD - DAY

As the cockpit's canopy closes with Billy seated inside, the camera pans around from the front of the SuperRocket to the back, revealing flames coming from the engine and the ramp in front of it. A groundless vista with mountains in the distance is also seen.

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

BILLY

(Pulling a lever)

Here we go.

EXT. BILLY'S BACKYARD - DAY

The ship begins to move forward as the brakes are released. An overhead view then shows the ship slowly approaching the ramp. A view from the ramp, under the ship, shows it moving onto the ramp, nearing the edge of the downward slope. As the ship crosses over the edge, it tips downward and begins to roll down the ramp, passing the camera.

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

BILLY

(glancing around)

Oh, shit.

EXT. RAMP - DAY

The ship is seen rolling away from the camera, gathering speed and approaching a downward dip in the ramp.

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

BILLY

(Becoming nervous)

Uh. Oh, shit.

EXT. RAMP - DAY

The ship passes over the dip and briefly becomes airborne, but falls back onto the ramp, landing with a clank. The camera turns and shows the ship passing over another dip and approaching the end of the ramp below it.

INT. COCKPIT -DAY

 \mathtt{BILLY}

(Panicking)

Shit! Shit! Shit!

Speeding down the final slope, the ship crosses a sudden upward turn at the end of the ramp, which launches it into the air.

INT. COCKPIT - DAY

BILLY

(Thrilled)

Wa-hoo! Hoo-hoo!

EXT. SUPERROCKET - DAY

The ship is seen rising up with the ground and ramp below it. It rotates around to face the ground as it slowly stops climbing, then its engine ignites again, propelling it downward.

EXT. STREET SIDE - DAY

Mark and Sam are seen looking up in disbelief as they watch the SuperRocket.

MARK

(Amazed)

No fucking way.

EXT. BILLY'S HOUSE - DAY

The ship flies by the house. As it does, Billy looks at it with a bit of sadness.

EXT. SUPERROCKET - CANOPY

BILLY

Bye, Mom and Dad.

After looking at it for a few more seconds, he turns the ship and heads off into the sky.

ACT III FADE OUT.

"Goodbye, Earth" CONTINUED:

FADE IN:

EXT. SUPERROCKET - SPACE (BILLY, LARS)

The SuperRocket is seen in orbit, high above Earth.

INT. COCKPIT - SPACE

BILLY

Lars, what's the status of the ship?

LARS

Main systems are operating at peak efficiency. The teleport system is currently operating at only forty-six percent efficiency. It was unwise to request teleportation under those conditions.

BILLY

I know, Lars. The last thing I want to do is demolecularize myself. I guess I should finish calibrating it.

LARS

That would be advisable. For your information, scanners have detected a decaying wormhole flux outside the earth's ionosphere. The technology to create such an anomaly does not exist elsewhere on the planet, indicating an extraterrestrial source.

BILLY

It must have been left by those aliens that ate Katey. Is it strong enough to follow?

LARS

Negative, it is very faint. However, I have determined the direction of travel.

BILLY

Well, I guess that's something. Lars, compute a parallel course and engage the wormhole generator. Let's go find those alien bastards.

EXT. SUPERROCKET - SPACE

Light rings move across the SuperRocket as the wormhole generator engages, then the ship shoots away and disappears.